

## **State of New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Division of Codes and Standards PO Box 802** Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0802



Charles A. Richman

Acting Commissioner

Date:

December 1993 Code Ref. Update: **December 2005**  Subject:

**Cathodic Protection of Gas** 

**Piping** 

Reference: N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.22, Fuel

Gas Subcode, Section

404.8

There has been increasing concern from gas utilities about cathodic protection of gas piping. The reason for the rising concern is related to Federal requirements promulgated by the National Transportation Safety Board Office of Pipeline Safety. These rules have extended the utilities' responsibilities for cathodic protection of underground piping beyond the user's meter.

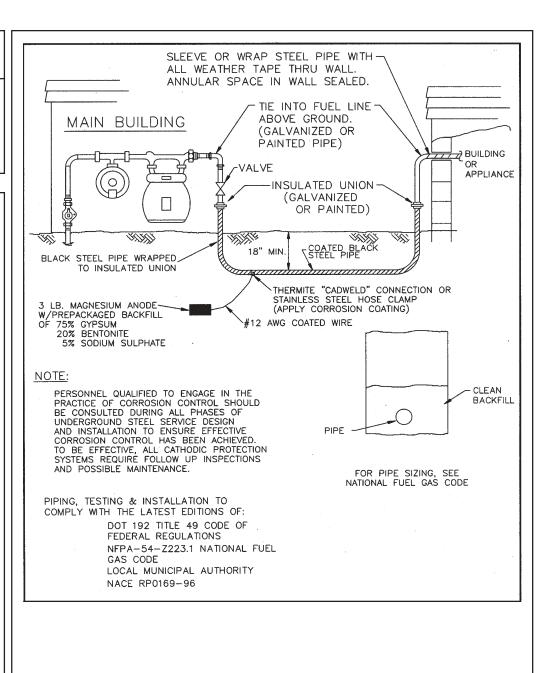
Thus, gas companies are responsible for the underground gas piping on the customer side of the meter that is commonly found in condominium projects, pool heater installations, etc. This piping is also under the jurisdiction of the Uniform Construction Code. Cathodic protection of underground gas piping is addressed under Section 404.8 of the Fuel Gas Subcode; however, the code provisions are not very specific on how corrosion protection is provided. Rather, the code simply states that piping be protected in an approved manner. The utilities have expressed concern that the term "approved manner" may lead to installations that do not provide an adequate level of cathodic protection.

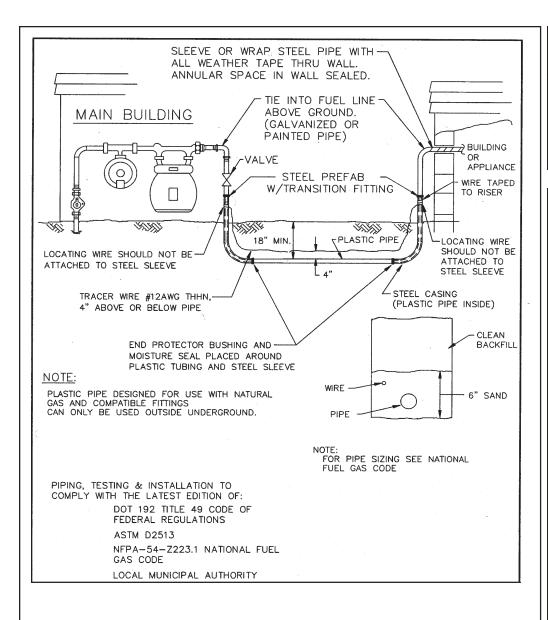
The utility companies have provided the Department of Community Affairs with the attached details that ensure adequate protection. In order to avoid conflicts between gas companies and enforcement agencies, the Department is recommending that these details be followed. Code officials are encouraged to share these details with contractors and designers prior to installation, so that all parties are aware of what is expected.

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